

Montana State Library





S
329,05
L131
Aug. 1979

3 0864 1004 4085 1

THE INTERIM

A REPORT OF INTERIM ACTIVITY . . . MONTANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL . . . HELENA

AUGUST 1979

VOL. II, NO. 3

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION LAWS AND JOURNALS AVAILABLE

REMINDER: The Laws of Montana, 1979 (Session Laws) were mailed the week of July 22 to legislators requesting them. In the June 1979 issue of The Interim you were notified that you would be sent a free copy of the Session Laws and/or the Journals upon request. If you have not notified the Legislative Council to date and you want a copy of the publications, an order blank is included with this issue for your convenience.

MEETING

The Legislative Council will meet on August 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Conference room.

FIVE-STATE CONFERENCE SEPT. 9-11

... r 4

Enclosed with this newsletter is a preliminary agenda for the Five-State Conference to be held in Helena. Legislators from North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana will discuss mutual problems and share views during the conference. Montana legislators participating on conference panels will be reimbursed for their expenses. It is hoped others will be able to attend as well. Registration fees for legislators are \$40, and for spouses \$10. Registration includes three meals.

DON'T FORGET!

CSG WESTERN CONFERENCE SEPT. 22-26

Council of State Governments Western Conference Annual Meeting in Helena September 22-26. At a recent meeting of the CSG Executive Committee in San Francisco the annual meeting was extended from four to five days and a new format approved. The meeting will focus on "Energy Issues in the West in the 1980's - Is There Really a Problem?" Tentative plans call for workshops on state-federal authority, transportation, and regulatory and environmental considerations as they relate to energy.

INTERIM COMMITTEES

ANNEXATION

The Study Committee on Annexation met for the first time in July and adopted a work plan for the study, reviewed past legislation relating to annexation laws, and established the scope of the study. The next meeting of the Committee will be October 5.

Several committee members will participate in a panel discussion of Montana's annexation laws at the Annual Convention of the Montana League of Cities and Towns in Bozeman, September 12-15.

CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE TO VISIT PRISON

The Study Committee on Corrections Policy and Facility Needs held its first meeting in July. The Committee will tour the facilities at the Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge and hear presentations concerning MSP needs and proposals on August 23. On August 24 the Committee will meet in Room 104 of the State Capitol, Helena, beginning at 9:00 a.m., to consider a progress report from the Department of Institutions concerning the development of a comprehensive plan for prison alternatives funded by the 46th Legislature and to receive the final report of the House Select Committee on Prisons.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS BRANCHING

The Study Committee on Financial Institutions Branching held its first meeting on July 16. The Committee discussed a proposed study outline and directed the staff to begin compiling various laws and regulations that define the differences between banks, savings and loan associations, and credit unions. The next meeting will be held in September.

EFFECTS OF STATE-OWNED PROPERTY

The Committee appointed to study the effects of state mandates and state-owned property on local governments held its first meeting on July 30. The next meeting will be held on October 27. The Committee directed the staff to begin compiling information to assist the Committee in determining what problems local governments face when they are required to provide services to improved property that is owned by the state and is subsequently exempt from property taxation.

ENERGY
FORECASTING

The Study Committee on Energy Forecasting will hold its first meeting in July and go on to meet in August. The first meeting will be a work plan for the study and the second will be to define the scope of energy forecasting. A third meeting would include all energy resources and would be meeting of the Committee in Denver on September 11.

Committee members will also participate in the USG Western Energy Conference on Energy Policies in Energy in the West.

RETIREMENT
SYSTEMS AND
INFLATION

The Study Committee on Retirement Systems and Inflation will hold its first meeting on August 6, 1979. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers and to establish the direction of the study.

INDIAN
AFFAIRS TO
MEET IN
BILLINGS

The Select Committee on Indian Affairs will hold its second meeting in Billings on August 10, 1979. The Billings meeting will be devoted to discussions with the Standing Inter-Tribal Policy Board.

CONTAINER
DEPOSITS

The Study Committee on Container Deposits held its first meeting in July. The meeting was organizational in nature. The second meeting of the Committee is scheduled for October 6.

REVENUE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

ROC SETS
PRIORITIES

The Revenue Oversight Committee held an organizational meeting on July 10, 1979. Bill Thomas was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Committee.

The Committee established a procedure for reviewing rules proposed by the Department of Revenue and approved rules proposed for the study of HJR 42, SCR 50, and SCR 51. The Committee voted to undertake these studies in this order and to study the following additional topics as time permits: financing of special improvement districts, property tax assessment of motor vehicles, and the current state of the reappraisal of real property.

The Committee also reviewed the major legal actions in which the Department is involved and received a report on the implementation of several tax measures passed by the 1979 Legislature.

The Committee will hold its next meeting September 8 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 104, State Capitol. Future meetings have been scheduled for November 10, 1979, and, in 1980, January 12, March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13, and November 15.

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE COMMITTEE

MEETING

The Administrative Code Committee met in Helena on July 27. The Committee discussed solid waste disposal rules as they apply to small counties. County representatives attended the meeting and objected to the rules as being too rigid and impractical. Department of Health and Environmental Sciences representatives defended the rules as necessary to protect the public health and safety.

The Committee also reviewed Issues 11-14 of the 1979 Montana Administrative Register. The Committee decided not to require an economic impact statement from the Department of Community Affairs (administrators for the Board of County Printing), as requested by the Montana Association of Counties. Instead the Committee instructed the staff to write a letter to the DCA and the Board of County Printing requesting that economic data be gathered before noticing future public hearings and before holding the hearing scheduled for August 17.

The next meeting is planned for September.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

BENTONITE STUDY

HJR 61 mandates the EQC to investigate the benefits and problems associated with the production of bentonite. Correspondence has been mailed to all bentonite firms and environmental groups asking for input and comments on the scope of the study. Interest and response to the letters has been very good. Legislators are encouraged to contribute comments concerning the scope of the study.

COORDINATION OF PERMIT PROCEDURES

The EQC staff is currently analyzing permit coordination of legislation of other states as well as reviewing existing permit requirements of Montana, as mandated by HJR 60. The eventual goal of the resolution is recommendations for coordinating and simplifying permit granting procedures for projects contemplating the use

in the environment. I am encouraged to go to the House as well.

REP. BENNETT: Representative of the State of Montana and Surgeon General of the State of Montana on July 20, 1979. I served in the Senate in 1977 and 1978. I served in the Senate in 1979-80. I am a member of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business and the Select Committee on Financial Institutions.

If you have not previously submitted a self-addressed and return this portion to Legislatively Yours, Senator Bennett, Helena, 59601.

LEGISLATOR NAME

Please send me:

- () 1979 SESSION LAW
() 1979 HOUSE JOURNAL
() 1979 SENATE JOURNAL
-

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP 1979-80

Interim Study Committees:

Annexation Laws

Sen. George McCallum (R), Chairman
Rep. James Azzara (D), Vice Chairman

Corrections Policy and Facility Needs

Rep. Dan Yardley (D), Chairman
Sen. Stan Stephens (R), Vice Chairman

Branching of Financial Institutions

Sen. Pat Regan (D), Chairman
Vice Chairman (vacant)

Effects of State-Owned Property on Local Government/
State Mandates

Sen. Bob Watt (D), Chairman
Rep. Verner Bertelsen (R), Vice Chairman

Energy Forecasting

Sen. George Roskie (R), Chairman
Rep. Joe Quilici (D), Vice Chairman

Retirement Systems*

Container Deposits

Rep. Bob Thoft (R), Chairman
Sen. Pat Ryan (D), Vice Chairman

Legislative Improvement*

Select Committee on Indian Affairs

Sen. Bill Lowe (R), Chairman
Rep. Tom Conroy (D), Vice Chairman

Statutory Committees Receiving Council Staff Assistance:

Revenue Oversight Committee

Sen. Jean Turnage (R), Chairman
Rep. Herb Huennekens (D), Vice Chairman

Coal Tax Oversight Committee

Sen. Dave Manning (D), Chairman

Water Resources and Adjudication*

Reapportionment Commission
Eugene Mahoney, Chairman

*Have not elected leadership to date.

Statutorily Mandated Committees

Administrative Code

Rep. Vicki Ladd
Sen. Linda St. John

Capitol Building

Montana Salaries

Permanent Legislative Committees

Legislative Audit

Sen. Matt Hamm
Rep. Harold G. Johnson

Legislative Counsel

Rep. Joe Guinane
Sen. Allen Kasten

Legislative Council

Rep. Vicki Ladd
Sen. Pat Goodwin

Legislative Finance

Rep. Carroll Scott
Sen. Ed Smith

Environmental

Rep. Dennis Kucinich
Sen. William F. Campbell

*Have not elected leader.

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM CALENDAR

SANS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5	6 RETIREMENT SYSTEMS 1:00 p.m. Rm. 104	7 8	9	10 WATER RESOURCES & ADJUDICATION Rm. 108/9-noon	11	
12	13	14	15	16 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL 10:00 a.m. Rm. 139	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE To meet at Montana State Prison- Deerlodge	24 COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS POLICY & FACILITY NEEDS 9:00 a.m. Rm. 104	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	-

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM CALENDAR

100

1

Five-State
Legislative Conference
REP. ART LUND, MONTANA, CHAIRMAN



Colonial Inn
Helena, Montana • Sept. 9-11, 1979

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Sunday, September 9

3:00 - 5:00 pm REGISTRATION - Main Lobby
5:00 - 6:30 RECEPTION

Monday, September 10

7:00 - 9:00 am REGISTRATION
8:30 - 9:00 WELCOME
Representative Art Lund, Montana, Conference
Chairman
Mayor Kathleen Ramey, Mayor of Helena
9:00 - 10:15 INDIAN WATER RIGHTS
A panel discussion concentrating on the developing
activity regarding Indian Water Rights in the states.
A discussion of the development of federal policy on
this issue will be included.
10:15 - 10:30 BREAK
10:30 - 11:45 ENERGY TRANSMISSION ISSUES
A panel will consider state issues relating to
power line siting, coal slurry pipeline development
and right of way acquisition for energy transmission,
and discuss reciprocity for situations
that develop when energy must be transmitted across
one state to the primary benefit of another.
11:45 - 12:00 BREAK
12:00 - 1:30 pm LUNCH
Welcoming address from Governor Thomas L. Judge,
Montana
1:30 - 3:00 STATE RESPONSES TO THE 4-R ACT
A guest speaker and panel will review developments
in the states designed to fulfill requirements and
options related to the Railroad Revitalization and
Regulatory Reform Act.

8:00 - 8:15

BREAK

8:15 - 4:00

LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENT

A panel will discuss measures recently adopted or proposed in the states designed to facilitate legislative business. Such topics as bill limitation, establishment of legislative oversight, reduction of committee size, and the use of committee sessions will be discussed.

8:15 - 8:30

RECEPTION AND DINNER AT FRONTIER TOWN

Old-time music, good humor, and good food will be enjoyed in a rustic setting on the edge of the Continental Divide. Bus transportation leaves hotel at 8:15, returns beginning at 10:30.

Tuesday, September 11

7:00 a.m.

NO HOST BREAKFAST - Resolutions Committee

9:00 - 9:45

OLD WEST REGIONAL COMMISSION

A report on the basic purposes of the Old West Regional Commission, its current goals, and ongoing projects will be given, and an opportunity for questions and answers provided.

10:00 - 10:45

REGIONAL VETERINARY SCHOOL

The current status of the proposed veterinary school proposed to be located at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln will be discussed. Realistic prospects and options in each of the states will be discussed by the panel.

11:00 - 12:00

CONFERENCE BUSINESS

Resolutions, 1981 Host Selection, Election of Officers, and other business.

12:00

BUFFET LUNCH

Lunch will be served on a first come, first serve basis to assist delegates with transportation connections.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

In addition to the meeting agenda, activities planned for visitors will include a tour of the grand old "Original Capital" (1864), which has been restored in period architecture, and a visit to Montana's present governor's mansion. Helena is a community replete with activities for guests. See Historic Last Chance Gulch restored as a shopping mall, Grant Reeder's Alley with arts and crafts, and the Historical Society Museum with its fine collection of Charles M. Russell paintings. For those who like the outdoors, miles of hiking are available in the Mt. Helena City Park, the largest city park in the Northwest. Pan for gold, do sapphires, go after a record rainbow trout in the nearby and ribbon trout stretch of the Missouri River. Come on in Helena.

State Library
Helena, Montana 59601

